

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DHA-02 AID-05 IGA-02 CIAE-00
DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05
PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 IO-13 /089 W
-----111443Z 024244 /43

R 111245Z APR 77

FM AMEMBASSY BRASILIA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1005
INFO AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES
AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO
AMCONSUL RIO DE JANEIRO
AMCONSUL SAO PAULO

UNCLAS BRASILIA 2804

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, SHUM, BR

SUBJECT: CONGRESSIONAL TESTIMONY BY DEPARTMENT OFFICIALS INTERPRETED
AS MAJOR SHIFT IN U.S. HUMAN RIGHTS POLICY.

1. BRAZILIAN PRESS APRIL 6 TOOK PROMINENT NOTE OF STATEMENTS BEFORE U.S. CONGRESS APRIL 5 BY ASSISTANT SECRETARY TODMAN AND HUMAN RIGHTS COORDINATOR DERIAN, AND INTERPRETED THEM AS REFLECTING HIGH LEVEL MODIFICATION, IF NOT REVERSAL, OF U.S. HUMAN RIGHTS POLICY. PRESS FOCUSED ON THAT PORTION OF TODMAN'S STATEMENT IN WHICH HE COUNSELLED AGAINST A TOTAL OR SUBSTANTIAL CUT IN MILITARY ASSISTANCE, AS HARMFUL TO RELATIONS WITH LATIN AMERICA AND PERHAPS TO CAUSE OF HUMAN RIGHTS AS WELL, AND IN WHICH HE SUGGESTED THAT DISCREET CONSULTATIONS WITH GOVERNMENTS ON HUMAN RIGHTS MAY SOMETIMES BE MORE EFFECTIVE THAN PUBLIC PRONOUNCEMENTS.

2. STILL MORE ATTENTION WAS PAID MISS DERIAN'S TESTIMONY IN MAJOR DAILIES. HER REMARK ON FOREIGN REACTION TO RELEASE OF HUMAN RIGHTS REPORTS WAS OFTEN INTERPRETED AS CRITICISM OF
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OPEN PUBLICATION. PRESS ALSO NOTED HER COMMENT THAT USE OF SANCTIONS IS AN ADMISSION OF PREVIOUS FAILURE, AND HER PREFERENCE FOR GREATER EMPHASIS ON POSITIVE ACTIONS, RATHER THAN AID CUTS, ETC., WHICH ARE A "NEGATIVE WAY" OF CONDUCTING FOREIGN POLICY. HER COMMITMENT TO CONTINUED EFFORTS ON BEHALF OF HUMAN RIGHTS WAS NOTED, BUT FOCUS OF PRESS TREATMENT WAS IN OPPOSITE DIRECTION. PAPERS CITED DETERIORATION

IN U.S. RELATIONS WITH LATIN AMERICA AND FAILURE OF SECRETARY
VANCE'S SALT TALKS IN MOSCOW AS THE MAINFACTORS BEHIND THIS
SUPPOSED CHANGE OF HEART ON HUMAN RIGHTS.
CRIMMINS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLICIES, HUMAN RIGHTS, LEGISLATIVE TESTIMONY
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 11-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
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Executive Order: N/A
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Format: TEL
From: BRASILIA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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